REMARKS:

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-20 are allowable over the teachings of what he has determined to be the closest prior art references. These references include Ender (United States Patent 3,287,291), Nakamura et al (United States Patent 5,973,067), and Britton (United States Patent 5,618,951). However, the Examiner has objected to claims 6-10 on the basis of certain informalities.

On October 18, 2005, Alvin T. Rockhill, the attorney for the Applicants, discussed this objection with Examiner Ling Sui Choi over the telephone. It is was noted that claim 1 provides for structural formulas numbered (1), (2), (3), (4) and (5). It was accordingly concluded that it would be better to renumber the structural formulas provided in claim 6 as (6), (7), and (8). It was agreed that changing the numbers used to represent the chemical structures identified in claim 6 in this manner would overcome the Examiner's objection. Claim 6 has been redrafted in this manner as new claim 21 (so as to avoid confusion that could result from the brackets contained in the structural formulas provided in claim 6).

It is believed that the amendment made overcomes the objection regarding claims 6-10. Since all of the claims pending in the subject patent application are allowable over the teachings of the closest prior art references, it is believed that the subject patent application is now in a condition for allowance and such an allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted.

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Alvin T Rockhill, Reg. No. 30,417 The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, D/823 1144 East Market Street Akron, Ohio 44316-0001 Telephone: (330) 666-4659